


Op 5-1



ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Monthly Report -- Hong Kong Bureau

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|--|------------------|-----------|-----------|---|--|
| FROM: | | EXTENSION | | NO. | |
| Chief, Operations Group | | | | DATE | |
| | | | | October 1988 | |
| TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building) | | DATE | | OFFICER'S INITIALS | |
| | | RECEIVED | FORWARDED | COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.) | |
| 1. | C/Ops | 30 Nov | | B | |
| 2. | | | | | |
| 3. | C/E&PS | | 12/1 | | |
| 4. | DD/FBIS | 2 Dec | | B | |
| 5. | D/FBIS | | | R | |
| 6. | | | | | |
| 7. | PO/RA | | | | |
| 8. | SA/CD | 12/5 | | CO | |
| 9. | | | | | |
| 10. | C/PERS | | | | |
| 11. | C/AS | | | | |
| 11. | DC/AS | | 12/8 | | |
| | C/B&F/AS | | | | |
| 12. | PO/RA | | | | |
| 13. | | | | | |
| 14. | C/AG | 12/12 | | m | |
| 15. | Exec. Reg. | | | | |

FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
HONG KONG BUREAU

FBIS--3616--88
2 November 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group
FROM : Chief, Hong Kong Bureau
SUBJECT : Monthly Report--Hong Kong Bureau--October 1988

STAT

I. GENERAL

The State Department has authorized the Consulate to grant a 4.95-percent, across-the-board pay increase to the foreign national staff, contingent on the agencies at post having sufficient resources to fund the increase. The increase is retroactive to 25 September. The Bureau has funds budgeted to cover the increase and has requested Headquarters approval to implement the new pay rates.

II. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. Comments by the Finnish foreign minister following a meeting with Deng Xiaoping, first monitored from Hong Kong Commercial Radio, sparked off numerous reports on the possibility of Deng and Gorbachev holding a summit early next year. The initial reports quoted the Finnish leader as saying the Soviets had met all of Deng's prerequisites for a summit and that one would be held in the spring. Later reports were less optimistic, saying only that a summit was possible.

2. Following an agreement reached at the Bureau Chiefs Conference, Hong Kong Bureau transferred coverage of the Chinese journals BAN YUE TAN, GUOJI WENTI YANJIU, and ZHONGGUO JIZHE to Okinawa Bureau. The transfer became effective with the October issues.

3. At Okinawa's request, the Bureau assumed coverage of the 1100-1500 GMT block of Beijing Television Service news shows 5-7 October. This was necessitated by a powerful typhoon that passed over Okinawa, requiring the stowing away of Okinawa's ROSET dishes.

4. NCN Limited, Hong Kong, advised the Bureau at the beginning of the month that XINHUA is updating its equipment and that in the future the Bureau will receive XINHUA Chinese on a teleprinter over a phone line, and not by FAX. This change will improve the Bureau's receipt of XINHUA materials. NCN Limited also used the occasion to offer a new subscription contract to the Bureau. After some minor negotiations incorporating wording to protect FBIS and its lateral consumers, NCN agreed to the new wording. MOD concurrence was also received. Unlike the previous contract, the new one will not have to be renewed yearly. The XINHUA subscription cost remained the same, but the price of the mode of transmission jumped \$1,500.

5. On the 17th, the Philippines and the United States, after much wrangling, announced the signing of an agreement on the bases issue. The Bureau has covered the voluminous reaction to the agreement. Although there seems to be some relief that the agreement was finally reached, much of the reaction to the treaty has been negative.

6. In another initiative prompted by the Bureau Chiefs Conference, the Bureau has investigated the possibility of receiving the PHILIPPINE NEWS AGENCY at the Bureau or at the Manila contractor's office. While PNA could be received at the Bureau, the hefty price tag of some \$15,000 is prohibitive. The price of receiving PNA in Manila would be in the area of \$2,500 yearly, but this method of receipt has the obvious drawback of the contractor's limited hours. At MOD's request, the Bureau has asked USIS Manila to send the Bureau a 2-week sample of PNA for comparison with the take received by Bangkok Bureau. USIS has graciously agreed to do so.

UPSIDOT: LEAVE IT AT BKK!

7. After finally installing two television antennas at the Manila remote site and improving reception, the antennas were damaged by Typhoon Unsang as it swept through the Manila area. The Bureau's contractor is working with the Embassy contractors to repair the damage.

B. Lateral Services

1. As requested, the Bureau FAX'ed the RENMIN RIBAO, XINHUA, and WEN WEI PO versions of the report issued by the 13th CPC Central Committee meeting to AG.

2. The Bureau was able to obtain, through Supervisor STAT many contacts, a copy of the Chinese television documentary He Shang, or, River Elegy. The movie, which after being broadcast twice in China has been banned, takes a critical view of Chinese bureaucracy and particularly those leaders taking a conservative approach to China's reform effort. He Shang has been applauded by intellectuals and reformists, including Zhao Ziyang.

C. Technical

1. The technicians created a database for equipment inventory and maintenance records using DBIII. The database will contain a history of each piece of the Bureau's equipment.

2. After giving instructions to the editors and teletypists on how to use the Telebit Trailblazer modems, the spare was shipped to Okinawa. Hong Kong Telephone approval of the Trailblazer modem still appears some distance off.

3. The Bureau assisted Okinawa Bureau with the purchase and transport of a 7.5-meter ROSET dish from Engloway, Hong Kong.

STAT

Chief, Hong Kong Bureau